

# **The Case for State Involvement in Strategic Investments: The Point Lisas Experience**

## **The Trinidad and Tobago Energy Sector up to 1968**

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- The beginning in 1865 –discovery
- Refining – 1910
- Two refineries by 1940
- Texaco, Shell and B.P. dominate.
- Fedchem starts gas processing -1959

## **The National and International Energy Environment**

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- 1968 – 1970. All available gas is committed
- Oil production declines
- The economy falters
- Amoco signals new discoveries
- The population cries “POWER”

## **Critical Determinants of Success**

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- Human resources
- Natural resources
- Finance

## **Agencies of the State**

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- IDC
- Ministry of Petroleum and Mines
- Office of the Prime Minister (The Energy Secretariat)

## **Developmental Objectives**

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- Diversification of the economy away from oil
- Establishment of basic industries
  - Steel
  - Aluminium
  - Petrochemicals
  - Cement

## Actions Taken

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- PLIPDECO
  - Estate Development
  - Port Point Lisas
- NGC
  - Pipeline
- Utilities
  - Caroni Arena Project
  - Point Lisas Power Station

## **Implementation Mechanisms**

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- Coordinating Task Force/NEC



## **The Gas Based Projects**

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- TCL
- Tringen 1 & 2
- ISCOTT
- FERTRIN
- TTMC
- TTUC

## Conclusions

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- What are the positives?
- What are the negatives?
- Are there lessons to be learnt?
- Was it worth the cost?

• THANK YOU